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ARIZONA HEALTH CARE COST CONTAINMENT SYSTEM

**DATE:** July 2008

**TO:** Holders of AHCCCS Medical Policy Manuals

**FROM:** Maureen Sharp, Medical Policy Manager  
Office of Medical Policy and Programs, AHCCCS

**SUBJECT:** AHCCCS Medical Policy Manual (AMPM)  
Update, July 2008

There are several policy changes for the month of July.

### **Reminder - Date Format Change**

Please note we have initiated a revision in the format of the AMPM. We are relocating the policy revision dates from the bottom of each page to the beginning of each policy. We believe this will allow readers to better identify when a policy has been modified. We will implement the new revision to date formats as we review policy. Therefore, we will have more than one format until we have completed our review of the Manual.

### **Chapter 300**

The format of Chapter 300 has been revised to correspond to the format previously adopted for the AMPM. This is a technical correction not a change in policy. Note each section of the policy is now specifically identified by an alpha numeric designation.

Additionally, there are two changes to policy.

#### **Policy 310–Q, Non-Physician First Surgical Assistant Services,**

Policy has been modified to allow RNs who have completed their formal RNFA program to register with AHCCCS as a non-physician surgical first assistant. The prior requirement that these RNs have “CRNFA” certification has been removed. This modification was made to allow qualified RNs to register with AHCCCS as a non-physician surgical first assistant prior to completion of 2,000 hours of practice as an RNFA.

Individuals with questions related to this Policy should contact Albert Escobedo at 602-417-4562.

**Policy 320-D, Cochlear Implantation**

Policy has been modified to clarify when repair and or replacement of internal or external components is covered. An example of when repair or replacement is covered is when the device is no longer functional or the used component compromises the member's safety.

Individuals with questions related to this policy should contact Maureen Sharp at 602-417-4627.

**Chapter 1200, Policy 1250**

The ALTCS Adult Dental Benefit has been suspended effective 6/30/2008. This program was initially approved for one year and was not renewed.

Individuals with questions related to this policy should contact Alan Schafer at 602-417-4614.

**Chapter 1600**

Policy has been revised to remove references to the ALTCS Adult Dental Benefit which has been suspended.

**TO UPDATE YOUR AMPM:****Chapter 300**

Replace entire Chapter with the revised Chapter 300.

**Chapter 1200**

Replace Chapter table of contents with the revised TOC.

Replace pages 1250-1 through 1270-1 with the revised pages 1250-1 through 1270-1.

**Chapter 1600**

Replace pages 1620-43 through 1620-44 with the revised pages 1620-43 through 1620-44.

Replace Exhibit 1620-9 with the revised Exhibit 1620-9.